POWNALL vs. SHEFFIELD. We are indebted to a late number of the Boston Courier for the following reminiscences:

SHEFFIELD was the intimate friend of GIBBON. and was entrusted by him with his posthumous papers. The historian remarks of Sheffield in his autobiography:

"The sense and spirit of his political writings have de cided the public opinion on the great question of our commercial interest with America and Ireland. The sale of his Observations on the American States was diffusive their effect beneficial."

Of this work, so highly commended by the man whose philosophic mind explored and brought to light the causes of the downfall of the Roman Em pire, the Intelligencer remarks, and with justice:

"We do not believe that any other man ever made so many baseless assertions and unfulfilled prognostications in a few short sentences."

But if Lord SHEFFIELD's book of unlucky pre dictions is likely to become one of the curiosities of literature, there is another work on the same subject which we recommend to the notice of our Washington contemporary as likely to be, if it is not already, a much greater curiosity. This book, which we regard as by far the most extraordinary work of its kind that ever saw the light, was published about the same time with Sheffield's. It treats of the same general topics, but the conclusions are so directly opposite that one might fancy the two books were written on set purpose to contradict each other.

The author of this work was THOMAS POWNALL an Englishman, who was in America seven or eight years, from 1753 to 1761. He held the offices, a different times, of Governor of Massachusetts Bay Governor of South Carolina, and Lieutenant Governor of New Jersey. His book is entitled "Three Memorials, most humbly addressed to the Sovereigns of Europe and America." They were published from 1780 to 1783. The author speculates upon the future fate of the American States, discusses the character of the people, their institutions, their national resources, their peculiar political position. and their inevitable destiny. On these points he displays a knowledge of facts, a correct appreciation of causes, and a sagacious foresight, to which we think no parallel can be found in the whole history of political speculation. Pownall was no visionary, no han-hazard utterer of wild conjectures, trusting to chance for their fulfilment. He had seen America : he had been familiar with the people, and had studied their character; and, although he left the country fourteen vears before the beginning of the revolutionary struggle, his keen intellect enabled him to discover causes at work which were destined to accomplish portentous changes. With an instinct bolder and clearer than that of Burke or Chatham, or Dean Tucker, or the Bishop of Cloyne, who sung of "time's noblest empire and the last," Pownall foresaw the future greatness of the American Republic, and was also able to foretell the precise steps by which she was destined to reach that great elevation.

In contrast with Sheffield's picture of the poverty small resources, and doubtful growth of the American States, we may place the following delineation by

"North America has advanced, and is every day advancing, to growth of state, with a steady and continually accelerating motion, of which there has never yet been

any example in Europe."

"It is young and strong, and will struggle, by the vigor
of internal healing principles of life, against those evils,
and surmount them. Like the infant Hercules, it will strangle these sements in its cradle. Its strength will grow with its years, and it will establish its constitution and perfect adultness in growth of state. To this great ness of empire it will certainly arise."

Were ever words so prophetic? "It will establish its constitution;" and this was written in 1780! But further, under the same date:

"One may pronounce of America as was said of Rome *Civilas, incredible est memoratu, adepta libertate, quantum brevi creverit.' " * * "America will then become the arbitress of the commercial world, and perhaps the medistrix of peace, and of the political business of

These assertions, which SHEFFIELD and most other Enofishmen must have read with disdainful incredulity, POWNALL sustains by the clearest reasoning upon the facts which had fallen under his own observation while in America. Let us see how clear-sighted he was on the subject of the character of the people of this country :

"In a country like this, where every man has the full and free exertion of his powers; where every man may acquire any share of the good things thereof, or of interest and power which his spirit can work him up to ; there an unabated application of the powers of individuals, and a perpetual struggle of their spirits, sharpens their wits and gives constant training to the mind. The acquirement of information in things and business, which comes necessary to this mode of life, gives the mind thus sharpened and thus exercised a turn of inquiry and investigation which forms a character peculiar to these people which is not to be met with, nor ever did exist, in any other to the same degree, unless in some of the ancient republics, where the people were under the same predicament. This turn of character, which in the ord currences of life is called inquisitiveness, and which, when exerted about trifles, goes even to a degree of ridicule in many instances, is yet in matters of business and com-merce a most useful and efficient talent. Whoever knows these people, and has viewed them in this light, will consider them as animated in this new world, if I may so express myself, with the spirit of the new philosophy. Their system of life is a course of experiments, and, standing on that high ground of improvement up to which the most callightened parts of Europe have advanced, like eaglets they commence the first efforts of their pinions from a towering advantage."

TO THE EDITORS. express myself, with the spirit of the new philosophy.

The keen discernment of POWNALL had already discovered the inventive genius of the Americans, their unceasing mental activity, and their extraordinary aptitude for the industrial and useful arts. It did not escape his notice that these people, although not pretending to be manufacturers, yet had a singular faculty of devoting "fragments of time" to such pursuits, from which he rightly argued important things of them in this department of industry He remarks that more useful inventions had already been made by the Americans than by any other people in the world in the same space of time. We doubt whether there were ten men in England who believed this story, But POWNALL had seen the people of whom he spake.

"Here one sees the inhabitants laboring after th with the spade and hoe, as though they had not an idea beyond the ground they dwell upon. Yet is their mind all the while enlarging all its powers, and their spirit rises as their improvements advance

The writer was so sensible that this would not be cre dited in England, "where the husbandman has not as idea beyond the ground he dwells upon," that he found it necessary to enforce the point by the following language "I hope no one will so misunderstand this as to take it for a fancy drawing of what may be. It is a lineal and exact portrait of what actually exists."

But we have still more to say of the extraordinary discernment of POWNALL, who not only predicted the "greatness of empire" destined for the American people, but with a sagacity approaching to inspiration saw also, far in advance, the influence of the new form of Government and new political ideas about to be developed in America. and thrown back from the new republic to Europe to work out great changes in the systems of the Old World. Were not the printed book before our eyes, we could hardly believe the following to have been written before Arnold

apostatized or Cornwallis was captured: "The independence of America is fixed as fate. is mistress of her own fortune; knows that she is so, and will actuate that power which she feels, both so as to establish her own system and to change the system of Europe. "Those sovereigns of Europe who have been led by the office-systems and worldly wisdom of their ministers; who, seeing things in those lights, have despised the unfashioned awkward youth of America, when they shall superseding the old systems of Europe, and crossing upon the effects of all their settled maxims and accustomed

measures, they will call upon these their ministers and wisen nen, 'Come curse me this people, for they are too mighty for me.' Their statesmen will be dumb. But the spirit of truth will answer, 'How shall I cursewhom God hath

-That such a prediction as this should have been soberly utterel of a handful of men, who were at that moment fighting for their very existence as a nation, must be accounted among the miracles of political foresight. The boldness of the prophecy is equalled only by the extraordinary precision of the fulfilment.

Of the commerce of the Americans, so depreciated by Sheffeld, Pownall speaks thus, at a time when Britain

was nistress of the seas: The American will come to market in his own ship ping, and will claim the ocean as common; will claim a navigation restrained by no laws but the law of nations,

forned as the rising crisis requires. On the subject of emigration to this country he

qually shrewd and felicitous in his predictions: America will seem every day to approach nearer and eare to Europe. When the alarm which the idea of going to a strange and distant country gives to the home ly nctions of a European manufacturer or peasant shall be thus worn out, a thousand repeated repulsive feelings respecting their present home, a thousand attractive mo-tives respecting the settlement which they will look to in America, will raise a spirit of adventure, and become the irresstible cause of an almost general emigration to tha new world.

"There is nowhere in the European part of the old wor'd such a greatness of interwoven and combined in terest, communicated through such largeness of territory, as that in North America.
"One finds every thing united in it which form greatness

of dominions, amplitude and growth of State.

How immeasurably Pownall was ahead of all his con temporaries in his conceptions of the spirit of political and commercial enterprise in this country may be seen by what we have adduced, and by the general tenor of his speculations on the growth of empire in this hemisphere. Nothing was clearer to his understanding than the fact that the States formed a great whole, with a community of interests and a power of combining in a system which could embrace all British America. In the following remark he was certainly up to the level of the ideas of the day that is passing over our heads:

"Whether the islands in those parts called the West Indies are naturally parts of this North American Com-munion is a question, in the detail of it, of curious speculation, but of no doubt as to the fact.'

Pownall's acuteness and sound political knowledge did not fail to perceive the defects of the old confederation. He saw that the States could never get onward under this loose system of general government, after the pressure of external hostilities should be taken away. No man discerned more clearly at that very early day the necessity of that "more perfect union" which the federal constitution afterwards established.

"If the true spirit of liberty, as above described, and the genuine spirit of government, does not act by the in-ternal attractive principle of Union, strongly and permanently, in proportion as the external compressing cause of confederation is removed, the Americans will experience the same fate and fortune, and be driven by the miseries to the same ruinous distress, which the States of Groece and the city of Rome had wretched experience of.

"Sufficient and adequate provision is not made for the representing of the majesty of the people, the sovereignty of the United States; nor for the efficient administration of the interests and powers of the confederation as a Gen-eral Government. From some lingering doubt of themelves-from some excess of distrust-the people seem to have been afraid to establish a supreme magistracy. *

* The general confederation, the General Government,

wants something to ensure in all cases the consensus obed natium of all the States. * * * Congress seems to be ormed on the idea of a senate to debate, or of a council o advise, and there seems to be a necessity of a distinct oranch of magistracy for administration.

He is therefore most carnest in his entreaties American People to establish a Federal Government to secure them an effective nationality, or, in his own words, · lift up a standard to the nations.

"The Memorial will now venture, in the words of the leep a politician, as he was a sound divine-to say to the overeign Government of America-

" Arise! ascend thy lofty seat,

"Be clothed with thy strength;
"Lift up on high a standard to the nations.

"Actuate your sovereignty. Exercise the powers and duties of your throne. Let the supreme magistrate or magistrates be visibly clothed with the majesty of the people, and seem to be armed with the efficient powers of ad-

Various other points of advice are urged with admirable

"A nation to whom all nations will come; whom all the powers of Europe will court to civil and commercial alliances; a people to whom the remnants of all ruined people will fly, whom the oppressed and injured of every nation will seek for refuge. The riches of the sea every nation will seek for refuge. The riches of the sea will pour in upon them, the wealth of nations must flow in upon them, and they must be a populous and rich people.

The enlarged mind and generous sympathies of this remarkable man warm into unusual fervor as he contemplates the glorious destinies in store for the people whom he knew and loved so well. The peroration of his work is an eloquent and affectionate aspiration to Heaven for their

Gov. Pownall sat in Parliament during the American war, and distinguished himself by his speeches against the ministerial measures. He was an accomplished scholar and antiquarian, and published several works on arche ology, and various other subjects. He died at Bath. England, in 1805, at the age of eighty-three. A town in Maine and another in Vermont have been named after him; but the firmest monument to his glory is to be found in his writings, which exhibit him as a statesman unsurpassed for sagacity, penetration, and foresight: the political seer who looked further than all other men of his time into fu-

WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 3, 1852.

Messrs. Gales & Seaton: Under the heading of Philo phical Inquiry, I observe, in this day's number of your valuable paper, a communication from Mr. Horace P. Biddle, Logansport, Indiana, calling attention to a physieal fact, as not "explained in the books," viz. that water at 42° F. occupies its smallest space, and expands when the heat is increased as well as when it is decreased.

Allow me to correct Mr. Biddle's impression in two points: first, as to the neglect of books in explaining the fact that the greatest density of water is not at freezing point, or 32° F., but at a higher degree; and next, as to the precise degree of maximum density. The fact of the greatest density of water being attained at a higher degree greatest density of water being attained at a higher degree than freezing point is, I believe, alluded to in every good manual of physics, and I know it is mentioned in the Iconographic Encyclopædia, vol. I, pp. 263, 265, or Treatise on Physics, pp. 89, 91, which article may be referred to profitably also with regard to other phenomena of expansion and contraction. The degree of greatest density of water is there given at 39.1° F., and the minute care with which every fact touching the physical laws of matter has evidently been investigated by the learned editor of that excellent book allows of no doubt as to the accuracy of this particular one. It is a slight correction of the statement in the Feed with the contraction of the statement in the Feed with the contraction of the statement in the Feed with the contraction of the statement in the Feed with the contraction of the statement in the Feed with the contraction of the statement in the Feed with the contraction of the statement in the Feed with the contraction of the statement in the Feed with the contraction of the statement in the Feed with the contraction of the statement in the Feed with the contraction of the statement in the Feed with the contraction of the statement in the Feed with the contraction of the statement in the Feed with the contraction of the statement in the statement with the statement with the contraction of the statement with the statemen statement in the Encyclopadia Americana, in which the greatest density is said to be at 40° F.

Mr. Biddle's theory about the increased or decreased ompressibility of the component globules of water will, I trust, he subjected to a careful examination by competent natural philosophers, and reported on for the benefit of science. It has sufficiently striking features to be suggestive of curious research; but it appears imperfect to the superficial glance of the ordinary reader, the layman, like myself, because no law is given to prove the greatest elasticity of the particles of water to take place at the degree of heat at which water occupies the smallest space. Mr. Biddle gives this only as his hypothesis, and not as an incontrovertible fact; it would be highly interesting to have his position scrutinized by some learned man who would consent to the publication of the results of his inquiry for the improvement of general knowledge, and especially of that of

A LAYMAN.

A Good Reason.—A country pedagogue, says the Chapet Bag, had two
pupils. To one he was very partial, and to the other very severs. One
morning it happened that these two were late, and were called out to

ount for it.

You must have heard the bell, boys; why did you not come?

Please, sir," sail the favorite, "I was dreamin that I was goin florny, and I thought the school bell was the steamboat bell, as ras going in."
"rery well, sir," said the master, (glad of any pretext to excuse his avorite;) "and now, sir, (turning to the other,) what have you to

favorite;) "and now, sir, (turning to the other,) what have you to say!"
"Please, sir," said the puzzled boy, "I—I was waitin to see Tom

NEW BOOKS. " Examples of Life and Death."

A pure, instructive, interesting book, made attractive by sentiment, thought, and expression, is indeed a benefaction to the reading public. For such a gift our fire sides are now indebted to Mrs. Sigourney, of Connecticut A beautiful volume, entitled "Examples of Life and Death," has been contributed with the new year to the religious literature of our libraries by this gifted and pious lady. In perusing this captivating volume we felt as if wandering through a rich gallery of antique portraits, where the stern, manly faces of heroes and martyrs stand out in bold relief beside the gentle features of the beauties of olden time, and where the appropriate costume of the age sheds over the whole an indescribable air of reality. It is delightful to wander through the galleries of the past with so agreeable and gifted a cicerone. Those who love to see "philosophy teaching by example" will select this production of Mrs. Sigourney as a classic in this description of writing. It would be, indeed, a re-

ng minds on the other side of the Atlantic. One of the most gracefully told of these delightful sketches is the life of Ann Eliot, the wife of the "Apostle of the Indians." It is a sweet domestic portrait. We select the following passages, the one describing her arrival on the bleak shores of New England in the morning of life and hope; the other presenting the calm and beautiful evening of a life whose decline was gilded by the cheerful beams of affection :

roach to an American community to be supposed capa-

ble of overlooking a native pen so brilliant as to have won

"The comforts that modern science has invented for "The comforts that modern science has invented for the traveller on the trackless deep were then unknown. No noble steamer, with its lofty deck and luxurious state-rooms, appeared with the promise of speed and safety, and with power to make winds and waves subservient to its will. Only a frail rocking barque was there, which the billows seemed to mock. Wearisome days and nights, and many of them, were appointed to those who adventured their lives in such a craft. But the affianced bride shrank not. Often amid storms 'mounting up to the heavens, and going down to the depths,' and long by the dreary prospect of sea and skies, and by the loathing dreary prospect of sea and skies, and by the loathing heart-sickness which neither pen nor tongue hath described, was the complexion of her love and the fabric of her faith tested; and both triumphed. At length the New World stretched as a thin cloud to their view. More tardy than ever seemed the movements of the way worn vessel. Hovering upon the coast, the autumnal brilliance of American forests and thickets, the crimson, the orange, and he umbered brown, blending, receding, and contrasting beneath the bright rays of an October sun, struck the daughter of the dimmer skies of England as a gorgeous dream of fairy land. * * *

"Scarcely more than ten years had elapsed since the colonists at Plymouth first set foot upon the snow-clad rocks, tenanted only by wild beasts and savages. Though visible progress had been made during that period in the accession of household comforts, yet many of those luxuries which we are accustomed to count as necessaries were unattainable. Carpets, sofas, the sheltering curtheir never-dying coal fires, were unknown. Yet the un-adorned apartment and homely board were beautiful to them, for love was there, a love whose entireness was per-fected, and made permanent, by having its root in the love of a Saviour. In the autumn of the following year, 1633, their firstborn, a fair daughter, smiled upon them, waking a fountain of unmingled joy, and making their hearts more at home in the stranger land. The cradle of ude boards rocked on a still ruder floor. But the lullaby of the young mother gushed out with as rich nelody as in any baronial hall, and doubly sweet in the wilderness seemed the hallowed balf-inspired words of Watts:

"Hush, my dear! lie still and slumber! Holy angels guard thy bed.'

"And so years stole on with their silver hairs. Ann Eliot struggled not with time for the vain semblance of those charms which he must bear away, but was con-tent with the beauty that belongs to cherrful, venerated, benignant age; that better beauty which hath less in it of earth and more of the heaven to which it draws near Still she sate peacefully and lovingly by the side of her heavenly-hearted husband. More than fourscore years had passed over them. Their minds were unimpaired, Prophet Isaiah-for this prophet was as true a patriot, as and their charities in action. Life to them was pleasant, and their charities in action. Life to them was pleasant, with hallowed memories and hopes that never die. The scenes of by-gone days gleamed before them as through the soft dreamy haze of an Indian summer—the woes divested of their sting, and the joys sullimated. They spoke to each other of all which they had borne, with the same humble gratitude. This love of their old age seemed like that of angelic natures. Yet not useless were they nor forgotten. No one was weary of them. The they, nor forgotten. No one was weary of them. The tender attentions of their daughter, herself a woman in the wane of years, but cheerful and vigorous, were unand comfort them for the children they had lost. less such filial piety brought its own high reward. there by the bright wood fire and the clean hearth she bled in heart and sad, they found christian welcome. crying, and urged to make the king of that country their soul's friend. They loved him who had tolled to give them the bible, and had baptized their children, and laid their dead in the grave with prayer. They loved her who had smiled so kindly upon and pitied their sick babes, as though they were her own. Their dark brows were furrowed with sorrow, as they marked the increasing infirmities of their white father and mother; for they said:
When these go to the land of souls, who will remember

CONOGRAPHIC ENCYCLOPÆDIA of Science, Literature, and Art; systematically arranged by G. HECK; with five hundred quarto steel plates, by the most distinguished artists of Germany. The text translated and edited by SPENCER F. BAIRD, A.M., M.D., Assistant Sec-HECK : with fine hu retary of the Smithsonian Institution. 4 vols. 8vo. (text) and 2 vols. 4to (plates.) New York: Rudolph Garrigue,

We have occasionally adverted to this elaborate and magnificent work whilst it was in course of publication, and made its appearance on our editorial table regularly more generally useful has ever come under our notice. We should like to see it extend the sphere of its usefulness to the remotest parts of our country, and to take its place in every library, public or private; and with this view we offer to such of our readers as have not had an opportunity of seeing the work itself the following short account of its

character and execution : The Inconographic Encyclopadia, or, in more popular English, the Encyclopadia of Pictures, embraces in its thou-English, the Encyclopedia of Pictures, embraces in its thou-sands of engravings every thing that can be pictorially repre-sented, giving clear, vivid, and admirably executed pic-tures of all the objects appertaining to the practical knowledge of the world, past and present, and conveying accurate information in the most agreeable and most im-pressive manner. This endless mass of pictures is ar-ranged in strictly systematic order, on five hundred plates, and is grouped with a degree of artistical taste not hereto-fore approached by the illustrations of any other work. The text which accompanies these plates consists of a series of manuals, elucidating, in a concise but exceedingly interesting language, and with an uncommon profusion of collateral detail, the principles and history of the objects represented. The plan of the work excludes only the provinces of biography and speculative philosophy; every thing else is treated of either separately or in connexion with some homogeneous subject. We find, therefore, in the Iconographic Encyclopædia a book that must be a treasure to every man who cares for his own improvement or that of his children; for in its pages and plates is contained a well-stored family library, including substantial and sound information on the principal physical facts which come under observation in practical life; the sciences of nathematics and astronomy; the physical laws of mechan mathematics and astronomy; the physical laws of mechanics; the theories of sound, light, heat, and of all atmospheric phenomena; the natural history of our earth and its inhabitants, its geography and history; the modes of warfare and of navigation in the different ages; the history of architecture and of the fine arts; the mythologies of all nations, and the vast empire of works of technical execution, including railroads, canals, aqueducts, mining, coining, ag riculture, &c. This immense wealth of information is made accessible by very complete indexes and lists of contents, by which the book is made equally one of reference and of useful reading. We know, indeed, of none which with equal right claims a prominent place in the libraries of families, and it is our impression that its intrinsic value will introduce it to general use wherever it becomes known.

The publisher deserves great credit for the enterprise and perseverance displayed in undertaking the issue of this magnificent temple of knowledge, and in carrying it out

with a true spirit of devotion to the great task. He has had the advantage of securing in Professor Barns an edi-tor whose multifarious acquirements-warrant the excel-lence of the work, and who in his turn has derived ben'efit from the assistance of other distinguished scholars. I cannot therefore be doubted that the loonographic Ency-rivalled for many years, whilst it is certain to dissemi-nate a vast amount of instruction wherever it may be

EDITORS CORRESPONDENCE. FROM THE MOUTH OF THE POTOMAC.

ST. MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND, As the ice embargo laid at this time on the Potome

iver has cut off all communication between you and this section of country by steamboats, &c., I have thought that, sooner than not hear from us at all, you would be willing to have a report by land, in the old way, by regupontaneous appreciation and acknowledgment from leadlar course of mail. It is with this feeling, and under this condition of things, that I take up my pen to write you to-night. Not for many long years have we had a winter as cold as the present; we are all ice; our rivers and creeks are all bridged over, without any appropriations from Congress or the State Legislature, so that we now travel about in straight lines without hardly knowing or caring whether we are crossing a field or a creek.

We have had a great abundance of wild ducks for several weeks past, driven down by the ice from the upper to join him, and on the 15th of the same month part of the Potomac; but within the last few days they have left us too, and gone I suppose down the bay towards Norfolk to seek open water, the river being now closed to its mouth. I took an excursion this morning down to one of our best shooting-points, gun in hand, expecting as then no further depredations have been committed. usual great sport, but was sadly disappointed. The ducks, as I before remarked, with the exception of those that had been wounded, had all gone, and these poor things were sitting about on the ice, and, not being either able to fly or to dive, were taken up at pleasure by the eagles. In the course of half an hour I saw three taken up in this way and carried off, to make dinners, I suppose, for as nany hungry eagles.

On my road to the point named, I had a distant view of your favorite watering-place, the Potomac Pavilion. You may be certain that about this time it looks lonely and out of season. At the Point I observed, for the first time in my life, that the river was frozen in ridges or waves, showing how exceedingly cold it must have been. This may perhaps be common in very exposed situations and in climates usually much colder than ours, but I do not recollect having heard of it before. Opposite the mouth of the St. Mary's river, about half way between St. George's island and Point Lookout, I observed a topail schooner fast in the ice. I should suppose her to be ains, and the burnished grates of the motherland, with in rather a critical situation. A knowing gentleman who was with me remarked that from her appearance she was down-easter; and he even went so far as to guess that it was your old friend Major Jack Downing, who was on his way to Washington with a cargo of codfish and potatoes for the Kossuth Congressional dinner, but had been pre- into the country by the Liberia packet are well-convented from getting there in time by the ice. Should it prove to be him, we will try and take care of him, on your account as well as his own. I also saw in one of our any of their number by death. The immigrants recreeks two or three oyster boats, with full cargoes on board, bound to Washington. You need not, however, ex- not healthy, owing to the smallpox having broken pect any of these vessels very soon, as old boreas seems both determined and able to enforce his blockade for at by the beginning of lent; and as you were disappointed that the people are giving expression to a desire to in getting the fish and oysters to feast on, I am sure you be annexed to the Republic of Liberia. will be very thankful to get them to fast on.

Notwithstanding the inconveniences of a cold winter, w also expect from it some benefits. A cold winter is generally followed by a good crop year and a good fruit year. One crop we have already saved—the crop of ice; so that this item will not be charged in the account between us

question, and tell you what the plain agricultural and working people in this section think of it. We are not wearied and beautiful. It was supposed that she had politicians, and know but very little about such matters. Various other points of advice-are urged with admirable overruled, in the prime of life, allurements to form a home sense and sagacity, and the memorialist assures the Ameson of the sense and sagacity, and the memorialist assures the Ameson of the sense and sagacity, and the memorialist assures the Ameson of the sense and sagacity, and the memorialist assures the Ameson of the sense and sagacity, and the memorialist assures the Ameson of the sense and sagacity, and the memorialist assures the Ameson of the sense and sagacity, and the memorialist assures the Ameson of the sense and sagacity, and the memorialist assures the Ameson of the sense and sagacity, and the memorialist assures the Ameson of the sense and sagacity, and the memorialist assures the Ameson of the sense and sagacity and the memorialist assures the Ameson of the sense and sagacity and the memorialist assures the Ameson of the sense and sagacity and the memorialist assures the Ameson of the sense and sagacity and the memorialist assures the Ameson of the sense and sagacity and the sense and sagacity as a sense and sagacity and the sense and sagacity as a sense as admonitions of Washington, by minding our own busine times the venerable Pastor ascended the pulpit, and in a and not interfering with the business of others, we feel roice enfeebled, though still sweet, besought his flock to very much disposed to adhere to the good old adage, and for the acknowledgment of the independence of the ove one another. Still to the armchair of his agel wife, let "well enough alone." We most cordially approve of the views you have expressed through the columns of the sate, came those who suffered, and she gave medicine for the sick, and food to the hungry. Thither also came the poor forest children, no longer lords of the soil. Hum-you gave a certain judge of New York for his interference Intelligencer, and especially do we approve of the rebuke with the business of the people of the District of Columbia. We are also entirely satisfied with the resolutions passed by the House of Delegates of Maryland; nothing could be better. We are also much pleased with the conclusions of Gen. Cass in his speech at the Congressional dinner—that he is willing to leave the question of intervention to "succeeding generations and circumstances as they arise." This postponement to posterity is exactly the thing we want, for at least three good reasons. The first is, that we should get clear of it ourselves; the second is, that our children will be stronger and more able to meet the consequences than we are; the third is, that it is to be hoped there will not be so much "noise and confusion" in the world at that time as there is now; and that they will therefore be able to take it up coolly and decide upon the proper principles of right and justice.

POTOMAC.

ANOTHER EARTHQUAKE AT MEMPHIS .- In the after noon of the 23d ultimo the people of Memphis (Tenn. were startled by another earthquake, which, as repre sented by the Enquirer of that place, seemed to com from the usual headquarters of all the earthquakes of every month through the courtesy of our friends TAYLOR the Southwest-the direction of New Madrid, Missouri. & Maury, who are the agents for its sale in this city. It The shocks continued in rumbling succession about ten is now completed, and we take pleasure in bespeaking seconds, and were much severer than those experienced iniversal attention for this publication, than which none last May. A considerable degree of insecurity was generally felt by those who happened at the time to be enclosed by brick walls, and one or two chimneys and some old brick walls in the southern part of the city were shaken down.

> "ROTATION IN OFFICE."-It is expected that Governo Lowe will make the whole appointments for the State of to the flames, and its seal will remain intact. Maryland within a few days; and it is currently reported that he intends to make a clean sweep, removing all officers without distinction. This report has caused much excitement among the ins, and is joyfully received by the illustration of the doctrine of rotation in office.

[Baltimore Clipper AWFUL Explosion .- The Adrian (Michigan) Exposite says: "The most distressing accident that ever happened in this section took place in the town of Palmyra, about in this section took place in the town of Paimyra, about five miles from this village, on the morning of the 20th January. The morning was very cold, the thermometer standing at 19° below zero at six o'clock. Messrs. Harrison and Wm. H. Roe, the lessees of the mill, Jerome Bowen, Philip Wolever, Hamlin, Sornburger, Richard Caswell, and Ezra Bartrum were in the mill at the time of the explosion. Roe, Bowen, Bartrum, and Wolever were killed instantly, and Caswell and Sornburger were decadfully injured so that the latter died on Thursday dreadfully injured, so that the latter died on Thursday and the life of the former is despaired of, and Mr. Harri-son severely injured. The force of the explosion must on Wednesday, and the signs of destruction were awful The mill, which was built of uncommonly heavy timber and braced in every direction, was utterly demolished. The explosion was of course caused by the lowness of the water in the boiler, and the formation of an explosive gas. The mill was owned, we believe, by Volney Spalding and Mr. Harrison, one of the wounded."

EVADING THE MAINE LIQUOR LAW .- Some ingenious de vices are adopted in Maine to evade the stringent liquor law of that State. A few days ago a coffin, at first supposed to contain the remains of some deceased person was carried through the streets in Portland, but the sus picions of the police being excited, it was opened, and lo! it was found to be full of bottles of whiskey, which were immediately confiscated. It is said a wag who saw the operation remarked that, contrary to the usual course of things, the coffin in this case contained not the body but WASHINGTON.

12. 在天下独立·曾经扩充在。1900年度出发。他们加强企业,由190

" Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1852.

LOST HORSES.

We understand that, notwithstanding the clame gainst one of the Bureaus of the Government as to its want of vigor in adjusting such claims, there has been paid out of the Treasury, since 1835, the sum of two hundred and eighty-five thousand dollars for horses lost in the military service. It is under-

FROM LIBERIA.

We have accounts from Monrovia, Africa, to the 11th of December, which confirm previous intellizence of hostile attacks having been recently made on two of the settlements of Liberia by bands of the natives. The leader of the insurrection was a chief called Grando, who, with a number of his followers, on the 5th of November sacked and burnt the new village of Fishtown, and murdered nine of its inhabitants. He afterwards induced several other chiefs made a desperate attack on Bassa Cove. But here the savages were repulsed, without any loss of life on the part of the defenders of the town. Since and the rebel chiefs appeared disposed to make peace. It would seem, however, that, before treating with them, the public authorities of Liberia contemplated, with a view to preventing the recur-rence of such disturbances, inflicting upon them some just punishment for their past treachery. These hostilities are supposed to have been instigated by a few foreign traders, and President ROBERTS has issued a proclamation interdicting all trade and intercourse with the rebellious bands.

The Legislature of the Republic commenced its innual session at Monrovia on the 1st of December. and on the third day after assembling canvassed the votes cast at the last election for President and Vice President, JOSEPH J. ROBERTS having been re-elected to the former office, and ANTHONY D. WILLIAMS to the latter, they were both forthwith installed for the ensuing two years. BEVERLY R. WILSON was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Vice President presides over the Senate.

The Liberia Herald confirms the report of the bombardment of the forts at Johanna by the sloopof-war Dale, which returned to Mesurado on the 11th of November.

The Herald states that all the late immigrants tented. They had gone through the acclimating ceived by the "Alida," from New Orleans, were out amongst them while on their passage.

Late advices from Cape Palmas represent that th least a month longer. You may, however, expect them affairs of that colony are progressing smoothly, and

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND.-We learn from the Boonsboro' "Odd Fellow" that the election for a State Senator from Washington county (Md.) on Wednesday last resulted in the choice of Mr FRENCH, (Whig,) by a majority of seventy votes. and our Boston friends for the present year, and will The contest for this vacant seat (made so by a tie therefore to some extent help to keep the balance of trade at the regular election) has been quite animated, as in our favor.

If you have no objection I will now close this communication with a few remarks on the Kossuth intervention ed the victory, that body is now politically tied.

The chief matter of interest contained in the latest advices from Havana is the arrival there of Senor MARIANO MOREINO, who has been appointed by the Republic of PERU as its Consular Agent at Madrid. Diario de la Marina states that the appoint the Spanish Government preliminary negotiations Peruvian Republic, and expresses a confident opinion that the mission of Senor Moreino will be suc cessful. It dwells at some length upon the importance of reconciling the different branches of the Spanish-American family with the mother country, and upon the necessity of making common cause against "a rival race," occupying another part of the American continent, which has already aggrandized itself at the expense of Mexico, and from which proceeded the piratical expedition against Cuba.

Among the arrivals at the National Hotel, in this city, is OLE BULL, the celebrated violinist. This gentleman comes to Washington, we understand, on financiers enough to see .- Globe. siness connected with a plan of emigration entertained by some of his countrymen of Norway. We believe that there is no class of immigrants that may be esteemed as more valuable than the Norwegians.

PROTECTING LETTERS .- Many thousands of letters sent to the post office are returned as dead letters, the persons to whom they are sent not being found. These are destroyed unless they contain enclosures of some kind; and often information of value to the persons addressed, or their friends, is destroyed with them. We see it stated that in a new edition of the regulations of the Post Office, about to be published, it is provided that in every cas where the writer of a letter chooses to protect it from the chance of being opened at the Department and destroyed as a dead letter, he can do so by pre-paying the postage, and writing legibly on the sealed side the words, "to be preserved;" in which case it will be rescued from the liability of being committed

The city of ST. Louis is fast assuming a com manding position among the cities in the great Mis-sissippi valley. An authentic statement, drawn up outs, who hope to get appointments. The Governor, it is by a committee of the Chamber of Commerce, esti said, means to give the members of his party a practical mates the trade of St. Louis, at the present time, to foot up \$60,000,000 per annum. The amount of exchange sold is set down at \$30,000,000 a year.

> GEORGIA AND HER RAILROADS.—The State of Georgia is pursuing with an earnest devotion and forecast the system of railroad improvement. by which the resources and energies of that Commonwealth have already been so largely and suc cessfully developed. The Legislature has just appropriated \$525,000 to the repair and equipment of Western and Atlantic Railroad, by which is years: completed the very important connexion of the seaboard at Savannah with Tennessee, by a continuous line of road of five hundred miles in extent, and at its terminus at Chattanooga designed to connect with all the great lines through the North and West.

Capt. SIMMONS, who perished in the British mail steamer Amazon, was the British officer whose efforts enabled the American passengers to get off from Chagres safely during the time of the riot among the natives. Had it not been for his exertions many of the passengers would have been slaughtered by the infuriated natives. He rescued them under circumstances of imminent danger, and placed them safely on board the steamer Cherokee, in the boats of his own vessel, the Medway, and afterwards took the gold dust, to the value of two million of dollars, on board the same steamer, under a heavy fire of cannon and musketry from the fort and the beach.—Newburyport Herald.

FROM CHILI AND PERU.

By the steamship Ohio, from Chagres, arrived at New York, we have the following items of news from South America:

CHILI.—Gen. CRUZ has surrendered to General BUNNES, in command of the Government forces, and the revolution is suppressed. Bulnes had returned to Santiago. This information was received by passengers from Peru, who reached New York in the Ohio, and the Journal of Commerce says there is no doubt of its correctness.

PERU.-When the President, Gen. ECHENIOUE. entered the Congress to accuse Gen. San Roman, member, and Gen. Vivanco, of conspiracy agains the Government, San Roman being present, the stood, too, that a large proportion of the claims presented are clearly not provided for by the existing law.

House immediately autho. Each was being obtained, San Roman left the Assembly, and embarked for Chili on an English man-of-war. V. vanco also escaped.

> A TEMPESTUOUS VOYAGE .-. The Halifax "Sun of the 2d instant gives the following account of the appearance of the Liverpool steamer Humboldt, as, on the morning of the 1st, she came in from the tempestuous ocean, on which she had been buffeted for seventeen days :

"The ice on her deck was full four inches deep, and men were engaged with hand-spikes breaking it up, when we boarded her at the dock. Her sides and boats were we boarded her at the dock. Her sides and boats were garnished with a coat of 'frosting' like a huge plumcake. One quarter-boat had been sweps away, her larboard bulwarks started, and strong planking; from her wheel-houses ripped up, by the tremendous sea which lashed her in its rage. Some defect, also, in the rudder demanded the labors of the mechanic, and these were

The Humboldt had thirty-five passengers and a cargo of French goods valued at two millions of dollars. Si've left Cowes in the evening of the 14th of January, and encountered a succession of west and northwesterly gales, which continued to blow with uncommon violence for nine successive days, during six of which only 460 miles were accomplished, although the engines were never stopped, and made an average of about 9,000 revolutions a day. The passengers speak in the highest terms of the Humboldt and her captain and officers.

The interest due on the PENNSYLVANIA STATE DEBT was promptly paid on Monday, according to custom, at the Bank of Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia, by the State Treasurer.

THE GERMAN REVOLUTIONARY CONGRESS.-We learn from the Volkerbund that this body assembled in Commissioner's Hall, Northern Liberties, Philadelphia, on Thursday last. Quite a number of delegates were present, representing the various Revolutionary Unions of New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, Newark, Lancaster, Richmond, and Bridesburg. Messrs. Fichler and Goegg appeared as delegates from the London Agitation Society. The officers chosen were Mr. N. Schmitt, of Philadelphia, President; Messrs. Wagner, of Boston, and Hurst, of Baltimore, Vice Presidents; Messrs. Gopp, Krug, and Meyer, Secretaries. Standing committees were named to settle a plan of organization for the Revolutionary Party in America; to determine the wisest plan of raising funds; and to lay down a platform of the party. These points of course involve the authority of Dr. Kinkel and the extent to which Socialism is to participate in the new movement. We shall consequently watch the report of these committees with interest.

The Magyar patriot wants money, and he has said

o often enough, and emphatically enough, to be believed. He repudiates, as far as he can, all mere civilities, and, like a sensible man as he is, tells us at once, and in the plainest kind of English, what it is he needs, and without which nothing can be done for Hungary—" material aid." This sine qua non is a pretty hard chapter; but still the people are doing something, and in some places on a pretty encouraging scale, as at Pittsburg, where they took the hint, not at all ambiguously given, and raised the very respectable sum of ten thousand dollars, the papers say. But, alas! there were so many per contras—so many outlays for this, that, and the other, for sleigh hire, for dinners, eternal eating and drinking, &c .- that when the account can ment has been made for the purpose of opening with liquidated, and all deductions made, the balance to be paid into the Hungarian treasury had been considerably reduced.

It is very well for those who have much money to spare, or even a little, to contribute to the Hungarian fund, as its ultimate destination will be, we hope, to do good in some shape or other-to relieve the wants of the suffering exiles, if nothing else. But the se who contribute under the belief that they are doing any thing effectual to promote the re-establishment of Hungarian independence deceive themselves, we are sorry to say. To secure Hungary from the grasp of the Emperor and the Czar would require a force of five hundred thousand men, and a fund of five hundred millions of dollars at least; and where all this "material aid" is to come from we are not

CULTIVATION OF INDIGENOUS PLANTS IN THE UNITED STATES.—The International for February states that Mr. FRANCIS BONYNGE, recently from the East Indies, has come to this country, at the instance of our Minister in London, for the purpose of bringing before us the subject of introducing some twenty of the most valuable agricultural staples of the East, among which are the tea, coffee, and indigo plants, into the United States. He gives his reasons for believing that ten and indigo would become articles of export from this country to an amount greater than the whole of our present exports. He says that tea, for which we now pay from sixty-five to one hundred cents per lb., may be produced for from two to five cents, free from the noxious adulterations of the tea we import. He has published a small volume, under the title of "The Future Wealth of America," in which his opinions are fully explained.

VERMONT .- Mr. BARTLETT, a Representative from Vermont in Congress, writes a letter to the Burlington Free Press, in reference to the appearing of his name in the proceedings of the National Democratic Convention, in which he says:

"1st. I did not attend any of the meetings of the 'De-nocratic National Committee." 2d. I never did, nor have mocratic National Committee." 2d. I never did, nor have I exchanged a word with any member of that committee upon any subject whatever. 3d. I had no knowledge that the committee had assembled in this city, or of their proceedings, until I saw the account of the action of said committee published in the papers of this city."

GREAT LAND CASE DECIDED .- The Louisville Journal says it has been permitted to make the following extract from a private letter written by a gentleman formerly of that city who has been residing at Hot Springs for several

"The great Hot Spring case is at last settled, after a lawsuit of thirty years' standing. It has been in litiga-tion ever since this country belonged to the Indians. Ludovicus Belding's heirs have proved up a pre-emption claim, and have entered the quarter of a section that covers all of the hot springs—eighty-odd in number—and the whole of the town of Hot Springs, which contains about one hundred and fifty or two hundred inhabitants. The greatest excitement prevails here; every man and almost every woman is 'armed to the teeth,' and swear they will die before they will give up their homes, some of

whom have lived here twenty-one years. "Major W. H. Gaines, who married one of the heirs, has carried on the suit, and brought it to a successful close: for which he receives, for his wife's part, one-half of the property. Major G. is a brother of Jno. P. Gaines, Governor of Oreact.

Governor of Oregon.
"The Hot Spring property is worth at least \$200,000. In its present unimproved condition the rents amount to \$7,000 annually. Gaines and his lawyers left here on Saturday for the county seat to issue writs of ejectment against the settlers. They will be served by the United States marshal this week or next, and then a difficulty is apprehended."